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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Tribal farmers training on natural crop management of minor millets

A one day training on 3-2-2016 was given to thirty tribal farmers belonging to Thittakarai of Bargur hills, Erode district by Department of Agricultural Entomology, Directorate of Centre for Plant Protection studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore. The programme was arranged with the financial assistance from Indian council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi under the scheme on Biological Control of Crop Pests.

Dr. T. Manoharan, Professor and Head, Dept. of Agrl. Entomology, TNAU inaugurated the training programme and gave special lecture on the use of various of bio inoculants used for crop cultivation.

After the lecture a special talk on the use of parasitoids, predators and bio-pesticides was delivered by Dr. S. Sridharan, Professor of Agrl. Entomology, TNAU.

Further Dr. P.A. Saravanan, gave a special talk on the use of entomopathogens in the management of key pests affecting minor millets. In the training programme each tribal farmer was provided with one kilo gram each of Azospirillum, Phosphobacteria, Pseudomonas, Trichoderma viridi and Metarhizium pathogens. Besides bio inoculants, they were also supplied with 3 kg of ragi seeds and 500 ml of neem oil. The tribal farmers were also offered tea and lunch. The programme was conducted in the presence of Myrada, KVK, Erode district. At the end of the training programme, an interactive session between scientist and tribal farmers was also conducted.

Asst. Public Relations Officer